



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Public Instruction  
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI 2007-14

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

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**Burmaster applauds governor's continued investment  
in Wisconsin's students and their families**

*Statement by State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster on Gov. Doyle's  
education proposals in his State of the State address*

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster issued the following statement on Gov. Jim Doyle's education proposals as outlined in tonight's State of the State address.

"In our state, parents and educators are working hard to meet our New Wisconsin Promise, to raise student achievement and close the achievement gap so that every child is a graduate prepared for higher education and the 21st century workplace.

"We need good teachers. Therefore, I am especially pleased with the governor's teacher education initiative to recruit and retain diverse teachers trained for careers in rural and urban schools. The quality of teachers in the classroom is the single most important factor in raising student achievement.

"Gov. Jim Doyle's commitment to our students, from quality early childhood education and public schools to our technical college and university systems, advances the efforts of parents and teachers to educate the next generation of Wisconsin citizens. Investing in school breakfast programs, smaller class sizes through our SAGE program, and 4-year-old kindergarten will help more Wisconsin students get the start they need to be successful in school and in life.

"The Wisconsin Covenant and increases in financial aid will put higher education within reach of more middle and high school students and their families. Gov. Doyle's investments in our world-class technical college and university systems will increase statewide worker training opportunities and increase the number of baccalaureate degree holders in Wisconsin, efforts that are critical to Wisconsin's future economic prosperity.

"In addition to working together on these initiatives, we must sufficiently fund our public schools so that every child, no matter where they live, receives a quality education. I look forward to working with Gov. Doyle and the Wisconsin State Legislature as the 2007-09 biennial budget progresses."

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